UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/847,382	05/03/2001	Jeffrey Richard Conrad	10006614-1	6078

7590 09/01/2005	EXAMINER
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY	BRUCKART, BENJAMIN R

Intellectual Property Administration		
P.O. Box 272400	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400	2155	

DATE MAILED: 09/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/847,382	CONRAD ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Benjamin R. Bruckart	2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *21 July 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.　　2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-4,6-14 and 16-19* is/are pending in the application.

　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4,6-14 and 16-19* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

　　a)☐ All　b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

　　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

　　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

　　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

Status of Claims:

Claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-19 are pending in this Office Action.

Claims 1, 2, 6-8, 14, 17 are amended.

Claims 5, 15, and 20 are cancelled.

Claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-19 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by

U.S. Patent No. 5,848,243 by Kulkarni et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,295,527 by

McCormack et al.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed in the amendment filed 7/21/05 have been fully considered

but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's invention as claimed:

> **Claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable
> by U.S. Patent No. 5,848,243 by Kulkarni et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,295,527 by
> McCormack et al.**

Regarding claim 1,
     The Kulkarni reference teaches a method of providing information related to one or more
networks (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 1-7), the method comprising:
     receiving at least one criteria for viewing (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-37);
     retrieving network device information related to <u>a plurality of</u> network devices in said
one or more networks which satisfy said criteria (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-60; col. 2, lines 12-
27); and
     creating for display on a single display page a visual representation of said network
device information (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; col. 3, lines 42-47), said visual representation
including <u>two or more</u> network segment visually distinguishable from any other at least one
network segment<u>s</u> included in the visual representation (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 45- col. 7, line

10), wherein <u>said visual representation of</u> each of said network segment<u>s</u> comprises <u>a plurality of</u> network devices which satisfy said filter criteria (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 45- col. 7, line 10; subsets containing devices; Figure 6A), and which is physically connected to the same wire (Kulkarni: figure 4).

The Kulkarni reference does not explicitly state selecting a filter but it is inherently performed (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-27; Figures 4a-4c and Figure 2, alarms).

The McCormack reference teaches at least one <u>selected</u> filter (McCormack: col. 4, lines 62- col. 5, line 6).

The McCormack reference further teaches it is desirable to have a network information collection system that dynamically and in response to requests can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Therefore it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one of ordinary skill in the art to create the method of providing information related to one or more networks as taught by Kulkarni while employing filter criteria as taught by McCormack in order to dynamically and in response to requests have a network information collection system that can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Claims 2-4, 6-13 are rejected under the same rationale as given above. In the rejections set fourth, the examiner will address the additional limitations and point to the relevant teaches of McCormack et al and Kulkarni.

Regarding claim 2, the method of claim 1, wherein said retrieving network device information comprises:

retrieving network segment information for each of said network devices which satisfy said filter criteria (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 15-34; col. 6, lines 20-37), said network segment information defining which of said network segments to which said each of said network devices is physically connected (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 63-67; col. 6, table 1-subnetwork).

Regarding claim 3, the method of claim 2, wherein said creating a visual representation of said network device information comprises:

creating said visual representation based on said retrieved network segment information (Kulkarni: col. 6, table 1; col. 4, lines 63-67).

Regarding claim 4, the method of claim 3, wherein said network segment information includes information related to said one or more segments, and wherein said creating a visual representation of said network device information comprises:

creating said visual representation whereby said visual representation is divided into said one or more segments (Kulkarni: col. 6, table 1; col. 4, lines 63-67; view just by sub network; Fig. 6A, col. 6, lines 45-65).

Regarding claim 6, the method of claim 4, wherein said creating a visual representation of said network device information further comprises:

creating said visual representation such that said visual representation includes an indicia indicating a division between each of said network segments (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 53-64; 2 different subnets; Figure 6A).

Regarding claim 7, the method of claim 4, wherein said creating a visual representation of said network device information further comprises:
 creating said visual representation whereby said visual representation illustrates connectivity of said network devices (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 62- col. 3, line 5; Fig. 6A, col. 6, lines 45-65).

Regarding claim 8, the method of claim 4, wherein said creating a visual representation of said network device information further comprises:
 creating said visual representation whereby said visual representation illustrates connectivity of said segments (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 54-64; 2 different subnets; Fig. 6A).

Regarding claim 9, the method of claim 1, wherein said retrieving network device information further comprises:
 retrieving said network device information from a database (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 33-54).

Regarding claim 10, the method of claim 1, wherein said receiving at least one filter comprises:
 receiving said filter information whereby said filter information includes at least one node type (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 61-65; col. 6, table 1; McCormack: col. 5, liens 10-19; col. 9, lines 29-50; Filter Type).

Regarding claim 11, the method of claim 10, wherein said receiving at least one filter comprises:
 receiving said filter information whereby said filter information includes at least one node attribute (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; node attributes; col. 4, lines 6-40; McCormack: col. 8, lines 29-58).

Regarding claim 12, the method of claim 11, wherein said at least one node attribute comprises at least one node status, and said receiving at least one filter comprises:
 receiving said filter information whereby said filter information includes at least one status level (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 6-40; status as child or parent; McCormacl: col. 1, lines 21-65).

Regarding claim 13, the method of claim 1, further comprising:
 displaying said visual representation (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-47; col. 2, lines 12-27).

Regarding claim 14, a network management node connected to one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 1-7), said network management node comprising:
 a plurality of modules stored on a computer readable medium (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 11-41); and
 a database storing information related to a plurality of network devices in said one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 33-60), wherein said plurality of modules are operable to receive information (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-37); retrieve network device information based on

said information from said database (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-60); and create a visual representation of said network device information (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27), said visual representation including two or more network segments each visually distinguishable from any other at least one network segment included in the visual representation (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 45- col. 7, line 10; subsets; Figure 6A), wherein said visual representation of each of said network segments comprises a plurality of network devices which satisfy said selected criteria (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 45- col. 7, line 10; subsets containing devices; Figure 6A), and which is physically connected to a same wire (Kulkarni: figure 4).

The Kulkarni reference does not explicitly state selecting a filter but it is inherently performed (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-27; Figures 4a-4c and Figure 2, alarms).

The McCormack reference teaches at least one selected filter (McCormack: col. 4, lines 62- col. 5, line 9).

The McCormack reference further teaches it is desirable to have a network information collection system that dynamically and in response to requests can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Therefore it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one of ordinary skill in the art to create the method of providing information related to one or more networks as taught by Kulkarni while employing filter criteria as taught by McCormack in order to dynamically and in response to requests have a network information collection system that can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Claim 16 is rejected under the same rationale as given above. In the rejections set fourth, the examiner will address the additional limitations and point to the relevant teaches of McCormack et al and Kulkarni.

Regarding claim 16, the network management node of claim 14, further comprising:
a network interface operable to transmit said visual representation of said network device information over the Internet (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; Figure 1).

Regarding claim 17,
The Kulkarni teaches a computer readable medium on which is embedded a program, the program performing a method for providing information related to one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 1-7), the method comprising:
receiving information including at least one selected criteria (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-37);
retrieving network device information based on said selected criteria, said network device information being related to one or more network devices in said a plurality of networks (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-60; col. 2, lines 12-27); and
creating a visual representation of said network device information (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; col. 3, lines 42-47), said visual representation including two or more network segments each visually distinguishable from any other network segment included in the visual representation (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 45- col. 7, line 10; subsets; Figure 6A), wherein said visual representation of each of said network segments comprises a plurality of network devices which

satisfy said selected criteria (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 45- col. 7, line 10; subsets containing devices; Figure 6A), and which is physically connected to a same wire (Kulkarni: figure 4).

The Kulkarni reference does not explicitly state selecting a filter but it is inherently performed (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-27; Figures 4a-4c and Figure 2, alarms).

The McCormack reference teaches at least one selected filter (McCormack: col. 4, lines 62- col. 5, line 9).

The McCormack reference further teaches it is desirable to have a network information collection system that dynamically and in response to requests can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Therefore it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one of ordinary skill in the art to create the method of providing information related to one or more networks as taught by Kulkarni while employing filter criteria as taught by McCormack in order to dynamically and in response to requests have a network information collection system that can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Claims 18-19 are rejected under the same rationale as given above. In the rejections set fourth, the examiner will address the additional limitations and point to the relevant teaches of McCormack et al and Kulkarni.

Regarding claim 18, the computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein said filter information comprises:
   at least one node type (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 61-65; col. 6, table 1; lines 27-29).

Regarding claim 19, the computer readable medium of claim 18, wherein said filter information comprises:
   ·node status, and at least one status level (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 6-40; status as child or parent; the level is child or parent; McCormack: col. 1, lines 21-65).

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the independent claims to emphasis a visual representation of "two or more" network segments based on selected filter.

The Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues the Kulkarni and McCormack references do not meet the claim limitation of a "visual representation including two or more network segments each visually distinguishable from any other network segment included in the visual representation, wherein said visual representation of each of said network segments comprises a plurality of network devices which satisfy said selected filter criteria."

In response, the examiner respectfully submits:

The Kulkarni reference teaches the cited portions above. Kulkarni teaches visually viewing the network including two or more network segments in the example col. 6, lines 45-col. 7, line 10. Kulkarni details the features of Figure 6A shows a view where the critical nodes of a network, the network including two subnets (A and B). Subsets are visually distinguishable by Fig. 6A allowing one to see how they are connected by a router. The plurality of network devices are also shown in Fig. 6A and discussed in col. 6, lines 61-66, "network devices."
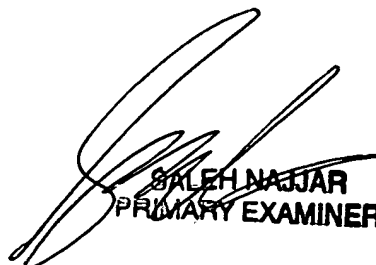
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin R. Bruckart whose telephone number is (571) 272-3982. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30PM with every other Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Benjamin R Bruckart
Examiner
Art Unit 2155